

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09814 281631Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
-----068824 281750Z /45
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1427

S E C R E T GENEVA 09814

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: INTERPRETATION OF TERM "CONVERSION"
(SALT TWO 1796)

1. SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED THAT MEANING OF TERM "CONVERSION" AS IT APPLIES TO CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED ALONG THE LINES OF ITS MEANING IN SALT ONE, I.E., THAT IT REFERS TO ANY PHYSICAL CHANGE TO A LAUNCHER TO ENABLE IT TO ACCOMMODATE A MISSILE DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE WITH WHICH IT HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED.

2. DELEGATION, HOWEVER, BELIEVES THAT TERM IN CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN USED DIFFERENTLY AND THAT CONVERSION SHOULD SIGNIFY A CHANGE IN STATUS OF ARMS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY, E.G., WHEN A STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARM IS COVERED BY A DIFFERENT OR ADDITIONAL AGGREGATE LIMITATION, OR BECOMES SUBJECT TO ANOTHER PROVISION SUCH AS A SPECIFIC PROHIBITION, OR IS REMOVED FROM AN AGGREGATE LIMITATION.

3. IN VIEW OF POSSIBILITY OF MISINTERPRETATION OF THE
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PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY, DELEGATION BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT TO REACH A COMMON MEANING OF THE TERM "CONVERSION" WITH SOVIETS. ACCORDINGLY, DELEGATION INTENDS, UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY, TO PROPOSE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING DEFINING THE TERM "CONVERSION" ALONG THE LINES OF PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE. EARLE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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SAS ID: 2183238
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TAGS: PARM, UR, US
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